

On a new species of *Ericaella* Bonaldo (Araneae, Miturgidae, Eutichurinae), with a cladistic analysis of the genus

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Abstract

A fourth species of *Ericaella*, *E. florezi* n. sp., is described based on males and a female from Cauca, Colombia. A cladistic analysis of all known species of *Ericaella*, plus two outgroup species (*Radulphius camacan* Bonaldo and *Eutichurus luridus* Simon) is presented. The single optimal tree obtained depicted a sister group relationship between *Ericaella longipes* Chickering plus *E. florezi* sp. n. and *E. samiria* Bonaldo plus *E. kaxinawa* Bonaldo.

Key words: Eutichurinae, *Ericaella*, Neotropical region, taxonomy, cladistics

Introduction

The genus *Ericaella*, proposed by Bonaldo (1994), is a typical representative of Eutichurinae. This subfamily can be recognized by the combination of at least three characters (wide, sub-equally lengthened ocular rows, absence or reduction of thoracic groove, and long distal segment of the posterior lateral spinnerets), but its familial placement is still under scrutiny. In this paper, we follow Platnick (2004), who kept Eutichurinae in Miturgidae, as opposed to Deeleman-Reinhold (2001) who advocated its placement in Clubionidae.

Presently, *Ericaella* comprises only three species distributed in northwestern South America and Panama. Originally, the genus included *E. longipes* (Chickering) from Panama, described in *Eutichurus* Simon, and *E. samiria* Bonaldo, from Peru. Bonaldo (1997)